

[English]

**Recruitment of Persons in Assam**

4037. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons recruited in Railways in Assam during each of the last three years category-wise; and

(b) the number of persons likely to be recruited in the State in each category during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The number of persons recruited in Group 'C' and Group 'D' in the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is as follows :

Category	Years		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Group 'C'	97	128	197
Group 'D'	270	266	539

(b) It is not possible to predict the exact number of persons likely to be recruited during the whole of the current year. However, the number of persons recruited in Group 'C' and Group 'D' in the current year upto November 1996 is as follows :

Category	Year	
	1996-97	(Upto 30.11.1996)
Group 'C'	115	
Group 'D'	138	

**Sales Agents/Consolidators for Air India in USA**

4038. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of General Sales Agents/Consolidators operating for Air India in USA and their performance as per latest review;

(b) the policy of the Government in appointing such Agents/Consolidators alongwith the guidelines and procedures to be followed to ensure transparency in such appointment;

(c) the number of General Sales Agents/Consolidators appointed by Air India in USA and other countries during the last three years and proposed to be appointed during the current year alongwith the details of the parties;

(d) whether the prescribed procedure was followed in the appointments made; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) At present, there is no General Sales Agent (GSA)/Consolidator for Air India in USA.

(b) A GSA for any area is appointed or changed by Air India when the market conditions and local custom so require. The appointment is made according to a well established and exhaustive procedure laid down which *inter-alia* includes scrutiny of applications received in response to advertisement, by an inter-departmental committee consisting of senior officers of Finance and Commercial departments of Air India, site inspection, activity assessment and approval by the competent levels in management.

(c) Air India has not appointed any GSA/Consolidator in the USA. In other countries, the following GSAs have been appointed :

- (i) M/s. Open Sky Limited in Israel
- (ii) M/s. Jetworld Air Services (P) Limited in the State of Western Australia.
- (iii) M/s. Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo in the Western and Southern provinces of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

At present there is a proposal for appointing 3-4 Consolidators for USA region only.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Partnership of Japanese Entrepreneurs in Hotel Construction**

4039. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have invited the Japanese entrepreneurs for partnership in hotel construction, development of airports and other related activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government of Japan in this regard;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard between the two countries; and

(e) if so, the details of terms and conditions of the said agreement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). A Japanese delegation comprising top executives of companies, banks and other institutions arrived in Delhi to participate in an open session

organised by Deptt. of Tourism on 30th Oct., 1996. The open session was meant to promote tourism and investment in India. The State Govts. of Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa gave presentations regarding investment opportunities in their States.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Recovery from Mid East Steel Co. Ltd.  
by SAIL**

4040 SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :  
SHRI AJMEERA CHANDULAL :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SAIL propose to sue against Mid East Steel Company Limited for recovery of Rs. 5.2 crore;

(b) whether bank guarantee and provision of payment of interest was not included in MoU signed by SAIL in 1994

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. SAIL has already filed a suit against Mid East Steel Company Ltd. for recovery of Rs. 5.2 crores.

(b) to (d). SAIL has intimated that provision of interest payment, for delay in payment beyond the interest-free credit period, was included in the MOU. However, considering the potential of sale volume and party's standing, they were exempted from submission of Bank Guarantee which is permissible as per the marketing policy of SAIL.

**Users Charge at Calicut Airport**

4041. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) the amount of "Users Charge" collected at Calicut airport during each of the last three years;

(b) whether "Users Charge" is also proposed to be levied at other airports of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the justification of levying the said charge at Calicut airport only;

(d) whether the Government propose to discontinue collection of "Users Charge" at Calicut airport and extend funds for the development of the airport; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Collection of "user charge" commenced only from 1st Oct., 1995 and an amount of Rs. 228.52 lakhs has been collected during 1995-96.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) could not have taken up the upgradation of Calicut Airport immediately without financial assistance from Malabar International Airport Development Society (MIADS). MIADS agreed to provide an interest free loan of Rs. 60 crores to AAI for the purpose of extension of runway. For payment of interest on loan amount provided by MIADS, Govt. has agreed to the levy of "user charge" of Rs. 500 per embarking passenger till the project of extension of runway is completed at Calicut Airport.

(d) and (e). The matter is under examination.

**Evaluation about Viewership of  
Parliament News**

4042 SHRI R. DEVADASS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any evaluation has been done about the viewership of the Parliament News relayed in Hindi and English when the Parliament is in Session;

(b) whether the viewership is poor;

(c) whether those slots could be used for sponsored programmes to increase the revenue of Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Doordarshan has not conducted any specific evaluation about the viewership of these News bulletins. However, as per ratings available from a limited number of cities, the viewership of these programmes is not very high.

(c) and (d). Since these bulletins serve the useful purpose of informing the viewers in the country about the proceedings of the Parliament, there is no proposal for using these slots for sponsored programmes.

**First Class Managership Examination**

4043. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a representation and letters from various Associations/M.P.s requesting to exempt Graduate Mining Engineers for appearing in First class Managership Examination;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Graduate Mining Engineers had mass-boycott of the First Class Managership Examination in 1990;